

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL NAHA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

COGARD

GOVGUAM

TREASURY

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 258399

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: OCTOBER 31 EA PRESS SUMMARY

### 1. INDOCHINA

NINE AMCITS, AUSSIE, 2 CANADIANS, 2 FILS RELEASED BY NVN  
ARRIVE BANGKOK AFTER STOPOVER VIENTIANE. EIGHT AMERICANS  
WERE CAPTURED AT BAN ME THUOT. USG OFFICIALS STRUHARIK,  
LEWIS AMONG THOSE RELEASED. ALL REPORT GOOD TREATMENT  
BY CAPTORS (UPI, CHITRIB; BARRELL, NYDN). LEWIS CAPTURED  
AT PHAN RANG (BARRELL). WP'S SIMONS AT BANGKOK DESCRIBES  
CAPTIVES' ARRIVAL, QUOTES THEN THAT THEY DON'T KNOW WHY  
HELD SO LONG, WERE TOLD BEING INVESTIGATED TO FIND OUT  
TRUE NATURE OF WORK.

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ANDELMAN (NYT ALSO IN SUN) QUOTES GROUP THAT THEY  
UNDERSTAND WERE LAST FOREIGN PRISONERS HELD ANYWHERE  
IN VN. RECOUNTS EXPERIENCES OF SOME. NOTES NEITHER  
VN GAVE OFFICIAL REASON FOR RELEASE THAT WAS CARRIED

OUT THROUGH UNHCR.

BREZHNEV, LE DUAN AT MOSCOW SIGN DECLARATIONS PROVIDING FOR SOVIET AID TO REBUILD NVN ECONOMY, INCLUDING CREDIT ON EASY TERMS. TALKS APPARENTLY LED TO STRENGTHENING USSR-VN RELS AT TIME WHEN HANOI STEERING COURSE BETWEEN SOVIETS, PRC (AP, NYT). SVN NATL BANK APPOINTS TORONTO DOMINION BANK OF MONTREAL AS CANADIAN CORRESPONDENT (AFP, NYT).

CAMBODIA, THAILAND WILL ANNOUNCE THIS WKEND THAT WILL ESTABLISH DIP RELS; EXCHANGE OF AMBS WILL BE MADE WHEN BOTH GOVTS "READY" (REUTER BANGKOK). SIHANOUK WILL TOUR 20 ARAB, AFRICAN, EUR COUNTRIES (REUTER PEKING).

LAOS ACCUSES THAILAND OF LAUNCHING AIR ATTACKS, SABOTAGE MISSIONS, CREATING DIFFICULTIES OVER TRANSIT OF GOODS, CLOSING MEKONG BORDER UNILATERALLY (REUTER VIENTIANE).

## 2. INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

NGUYEN CAO KY AT U OF FLA URGED US TROOPS RETURN SVN TO PROTECT REFUGEES WHO WANT RETURN HOME; LEFT LECTURE PLATFORM AFTER QUESTION INVOLVING ALLEGATION HE WAS INVOLVED IN HEROIN SALES IN SVN(NYT).

## 3.CHINA

WEI KUO-CHING, MEMBER OF PRC'S RULING CCP POLITBURO, HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM POST AS PARTY CHIEF IN KWANGSI-CHUANG AUTONOMOUS REGION TO CANTON, TO BECOME KWANGTUNG PROVINCE PARTY CHIEF. TRANSFER DISCLOSED IN HK-MONITORED PROVINCIAL RADIO BROADCAST. WP FOREIGN SERVICE ITEM SAYS THIS PROBABLY PROMOTION FOR WEI, SINCE KWANGTUNG MORE IMPORTANT AREA. MOST PROBABLE REASON FOR SHIFT IS PEKING'S CONTINUING EFFORT UNCLASSIFIED

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BREAK UP LONG-ESTABLISHED PROVINCIAL POWER BASES, WHICH THEY SAY LEAD TO "MOUNTAIN-TOP FACTIONALISM."

NYT'S BUTTERFIELD, IN HK REPORTS SOME ANALYSTS BELIEVE ALSO POSSIBLE "HIGHLY UNUSUAL" WEI KUO-CHING TRANSFER MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED TO WEAKEN APPARENTLY STILL CONSIDERABLE POWER OF LIN PIAO FOLLOWERS IN CANTON REGION.

NCNA REPORTS FRG'S SCHMIDT HELD FINAL ROUND OF TALKS WITH TENG HSIAO-PING FRIDAY. CHANCELLOR LEAVES PEKING 11/1, TO BECOME FIRST WESTERN LEADER VISITING URUMCHI (REUTER PEKING).

WP'S GREENWAY, IN HK, OBSERVES THAT AS WAS CASE WITH HAK LAST WEEK, SCHMIDT VISIT SEEING GREAT EMPHASIS BEING PUT ON DANGERS OF DETENTE WITH SOVIET. ACCORDING WU (SUN), WHILE SCHMIDT VISIT POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT,

IS EQUALLY IF NOT MORE IMPORTANT ECONOMICALLY; CHANCELLOR, ECON EXPERT, EXCHANGED VIEWS WITH PRC LEADERS ON WORLD ECON SITUATION, RELATIONS BETWEEN LDC/INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS. OBSERVES THAT SOVIET/EE ENVOYS, WHO WALKED OUT WHEN TENG MADE Milder ANTI-SOVIET REMARKS DURING BANQUET FOR YUGOSLAV VICE PRES EARLIER THIS MONTH, CHOSE REMAIN IN SEATS THIS TIME AS TENG PLAYED SOVIET AT SCHMIDT BANQUET, SINCE "TOO IMPORTANT AN OCCASION TO MISS."

JOC'S STRAUSS IN CANTON CITES OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION PRC BUILDING OIL REFINERY-PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX IN WHAMPOA PORT AREA, FED BY OIL FROM NEW FIELD OF UNDISCLOSED SIZE IN NANHAI COUNTY. ALSO NOTES EXTENSIVE DOUBLE-TRACK RAIL WORK EXTENDING NE FROM CANTON-HK LINE, WHICH HK OBSERVERS BELIEVE MAY RELATE TO LONG-PLANNED COMPLETION OF CANTON-SHANGHAI TRUNK LINE, THROUGH FUKIEN. ADDS MAP PREPARED BY CONGRESS, WITH CIA HELP, SHOWS "AREA WITH OIL PROSPECTS" W AND SW OF CANTON.

AP (LONDON 10/28) REPORTS OLYMPIC SOURCES SAYING UNCLASSIFIED

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CHANCES OF PRC ATHLETES COMPETING IN 1976 OLYMPICS AT MONTREAL HAVE SHRUNK TO ALMOST NOTHING. IOC PRES LORD KILLANIN SAYS STILL WAITING FOR PEKING RECEIVE HIM ABOUT PRC APPLICATION. AP SAYS OLYMPIC OFFICIALS NOW FEEL PRC HAS 1980 GAMES AS TARGET (LAT).

CSM'S AZIZ, IN KARACHI, REPORTS PAKS WILL NOT SUPPORT SOVIET ASIAN SECURITY CONFERENCE OR COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM, BECAUSE OF KARACHI'S OWN CLOSE PEKING TIES.

#### 4. JAPAN

HIROHITO GAVE UNPRECEDENTED NEWS CONFERENCE IN IMPERIAL PALACE FRIDAY FOR JAPANESE PRESS. ALSO ATTENDED BY FIVE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS. TAPED FOR TV BROADCAST SAME EVENING. IN RESPONSE QUESTIONS, EMPEROR SAID US A-BOMBING "REGRETTABLE" BUT OCCURRED DURING WAR AND COULD NOT BE HELPED. ASKED IF REFERENCE TO "MOST UNFORTUNATE WAR WHICH I DEEPLY DEPLORE" DURING WH DINNER TOAST WAS INDIRECT EXPRESSION OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONFLICT, EMPEROR DECLINED INTERPRET IMPLICATIONS OF WORDS, "SINCE I HAVE NOT STUDIED LITERATURE." SAID RECENT US AND 1971 EUR VISITS AMONG MANY HAPPY MEMORIES; ABOVE ALL, HAPPY AT JAPAN'S RECONSTRUC-

TION. MOST UNFORTUNATE EVENT WAS WAR, WHICH HE HOPED  
WOULD NOT RECUR. EXPRESSED DOUBT COULD MEET JAPANESE  
PEOPLE IN SAME RELAXED MOOD AS MET AMERICANS IN US

"BECAUSE OF DIFFERENCES IN NATIONAL CHARACTER"  
(NAKAMIKADO, REUTER TOKYO).

FOREIGN TRADE COUNCIL THURSDAY REPORTED EXPORT CONTRACTS  
SIGNED BY 14 MAJOR TRADING FIRMS SEPTEMBER TOTALED  
4.3 BILLION DOLS, UP 73 PERCENT OVER AUGUST; IMPORT  
CONTRACTS 4.04 BILLION DOLS, UP 74 PERCENT (JOC, TOKYO).

TREASURY RULED THURSDAY JAPAN NOT DUMPING RECHARGEABLE  
SEALED NI-CA BATTERIES IN US. IMPORTS IN 13 MONTHS  
THROUGH AUGUST TOTALED 2.7 MILLION DOLS (JOC, WASHINGTON).

IN REVIEW OF STATUS OF DOW APPLICATION BUILD NEW SODA  
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PLANT, LAT'S JAMESON (10/28) CITES MITI OFFICIAL TELLING  
PRESS MONDAY WOULD "BE MOST UNFORTUNATE" FOR TROUBLE  
OCCUR AS RESULT OF GOJ DECISION (TO APPROVE). ASKED  
IF INDUSTRY COULD THWART GOJ DECISION TO LIBERALIZE  
INVESTMENT, OFFICIAL REPLIED COULD NOT ACCEPT THEORY  
"THAT EVERYTHING SHOULD BE LAISSEZ FAIRE" IN BASIC  
INDUSTRY, LIKE SODA. NOTES INDUSTRY FEAR DOW WOULD  
HAVE UNFAIR ADVANTAGE, SINCE ALREADY DEVELOPED COSTLY  
NON-POLLUTING DIAPHRAGM TECHNOLOGY, TO WHICH GOJ ONLY  
NOW ORDERING JAPANESE PRODUCERS SWITCH.

#### 5. INDONESIA

SOUTHERN CAL EDISON SAYS WILL BUY SUBSTANTIAL VOLUMES  
PERTAMINA FUEL OIL UNDER TERMS 10-YR CONTRACT BELIEVED  
OVER 1 BILLION DOLS (UPI, JOC).

#### 6. AUSTRALIA

GOVT GIVES GO-AHEAD DEVELOPMENT NEBO SITE IN QUEENSLAND  
FOR ONE OF WORLD'S LARGEST COAL-MINING PROJECTS. EXPORT  
TONNAGE EXPECTED PEAK AT 5 MILLION TONS AFTER FIRST  
SHIPMENTS IN APR 1979, WITH ALMOST 75 MILLION TONS  
EXPORTED TO JAPAN OVER 17-YR PERIOD. PROJECT WILL HAVE  
51-PCT AUSSIE EQUITY AT INSISTENCE GOVT (STOVE, JOC).

PRODUCTION AT CHRYSLER'S ADELAIDE FACTORIES DISRUPTED  
AS UNIONS BEGIN 4-DAY WK IN PROTEST AGAINST LAYOFFS  
(REUTER ADELAIDE).

#### 7. FOREIGN AID

PRES ASKS CONGRESS FOR 4.7 BILLION IN MIL AID, SUPPORT

ASSISTANCE THAT INCLUDES 80 MILLION MIL CREDITS FOR  
TAIWAN; 200 MILLION GRANTS, MIL CREDITS FOR SK; 65 MIL

GRANTS, CREDITS FOR THAILAND (MARDER, WP; WSJ); ALSO 20  
MILLION FOR INDONESIA, OVER 20 MILLION FOR PHILS  
(GWERTZMAN, NYT).

8. GENERAL  
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ASIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK FROM IRAN TO INDONESIA  
WILL OPERATE WITHIN 5 YRS, ACCORDING REGIONAL COORDINATOR  
IN DELHI. SYSTEM WILL COVER 14 COUNTRIES INCLUDING  
LAOS, CAMBODIA, VN, THAILAND, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE,  
INDONESIA; BURMA EXPECTED ENTER LATER (CSM).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

9. KOREA

CSM'S ANABLE AT UN CITES SUMMATION BY ONE WESTERN  
DIPLOMAT THAT ADOPTION OF CONTRADICTORY RESOLUTIONS ON  
KOREA BY UN POL COMM WEDNESDAY "NONSENSE" BUT "NOT  
INSOLUBLE IMPASSE." HOPE IS FOR "HONEST BROKER" TO  
PROPOSE SENSIBLE COMPROMISE ON WHICH UNGA CAN AGREE.  
STATES WHOLE AFFAIR "MIGHT BE COMICAL," EXCEPT FOR  
ENORMOUS WEIGHT SK, NK PLACE ON UN DECISIONS, OR LACK  
OF THEM. NOTES WHATEVER RESOLUTION UNGA PASSES, STATUS  
OF NEARLY ALL 38,000 US TROOPS IN SK WILL REMAIN  
UNCHANGED UNDER BILATERAL DEFENSE TREATY.

10. CHINA

JOC'S STRAUSS, AT CANTON, REPORTS TRADE FAIR SPOKESMAN  
TSOU SZU YEE SAYING IN INTERVIEW THAT PRC'S TRADE  
THIS YEAR WILL BE 180 PERCENT INCREASE OVER START OF  
CURRENT FIVE-YEAR PLANS IN 1971; HOWEVER, TRADE THIS  
YEAR SHOULD ONLY INCREASE SLIGHTLY OVER 1974. TSOU  
SAID ESTIMATE PREPARED BY TRADE FAIR, NOT PEKING  
OFFICIALS. STRAUSS SUGGESTS TSOU'S DESCRIPTION OF 1975  
TRADE AS "NOT VERY BIG INCREASE FOR CHINA" MUST BE  
VIEWED AS SOMETHING OF SETBACK FOR PRC, AND CANTON  
OFFICIALS KNOW SLOWING OF TRADE GROWTH CAUSED BY "CRISIS  
IN THE CAPITALIST WORLD." NOTES TSOU CONFIRMED INDIRECTLY  
OUTSIDERS' OPINIONS THAT CANTON FAIR PLAYING LESS VITAL  
ROLE IN PRC'S ECONOMY.

11. ASIA SECURITY PACT

TO GLOBE'S CROCKER SNOW, SOVIET-TRUMPED FIVE-YEAR  
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ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY PACT SEEMS, AT MOMENT,  
"FAR-FETCHED IN THE EXTREME," SINCE "WOULD BE TRANSPARENTLY

DIRECTED AT CHINA," SO FEW ASIA COUNTRIES WOULD  
WISH JOIN -- AND US UNFAVORABLY INCLINED, TO BOOT.  
KISSINGER

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